

" obedient unto death," fulfilling the law in its precepts, and submitting to its penalty.

" I HAVE GLORIFIED THEE UPON THE EARTH." We reckon this

language as very remarkable. We know not if God has been dishonoured anywhere throughout a boundless universe so much as he has been upon the earth. Revelation, indeed, speaks of the angels who fell; but, with their exception, we know not if any other creatures of God, in any other world, have so dishonoured him by breaking his commandments; and in regard to them, the righteousness of God was instantly vindicated by their being consigned to punishment. But for these four thousand years which had run their course, before the appointed Deliverer came down to this earth, one generation of men after another had gone on dishonouring his name and breaking his laws with apparent impunity. Never had God been so dishonoured without an instant and public vindication of his justice. But on the very earth where he had been so dishonoured, is he now glorified. This is done in the work of the appointed Substitute, in which the law is magnified and made honourable, and divine justice satisfied, while room is opened up for the fullest manifestation of the divine mercy. This is done in the name and nature of those who had so dishonoured God, so that, as by man God has been dishonoured, by man God is now glorified. All this is done at the very place at which the wickedness of man had been so great; so that, as on the earth God had been dishonoured, so now, on the earth, God is glorified.

That we may be the more forcibly impressed with this exhibition of the divine glory, let us convey ourselves, in imagination, into the heart of those dark scenes into which the Redeemer is represented as having entered immediately after the utterance of the words on which we have been commenting. At the darkest hour of that night, a band of officers, headed by an apostate

apostle, come with glaring torches to apprehend
him. His other
followers, after showing a momentary courage,
speedily abandon
him. He is dragged before the tribunal of the
high priest,
where, on the testimony of lying witnesses, bribed
for the purpose,
that high priest pronounces a sentence of
condemnation on
him, from whom, though he little thinks of it, his
office derives
all its authority. In the courts of the judge, we
hear mingled
with the scoffs and jeers of the multitude, the
cursing, swearing,